

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first paragraph of the specification beginning at page 1, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application ~~claims priority to, and incorporates herein in full by reference, co-~~
~~pending non-provisional patent applications having U.S. Serial Nos. is a continuation-in-part of~~
~~prior U.S. Patent Application No. 09/892,834, filed June 27, 2001; and is a continuation-in-part~~
~~of prior U.S. Patent Application No. 10/326,539, filed December 20, 2002; and is a continuation-~~
~~in-part of prior U.S. Patent Application No. 10/439,935, filed May 16, 2003; each prior~~
~~application of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.~~

REMARKS

The following remarks are submitted to address the above amendments. Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-23 are now pending in this application.

No new matter has been added. Support for requested amendments can be found in the original application. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

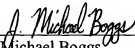
Applicant respectfully submits the above amendment to the first paragraph of the specification to indicate the relationship between the present application and the applications to which priority is claimed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i). The relationship between the present application and the applications to which priority is claimed is also indicated on the "Utility Patent Application Transmittal" submitted with the original application.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests early consideration of the application. The Office is respectfully invited to contact J. Michael Boggs at (336) 747-7536, to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/19/03



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